

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN STB DOCKET NO. AB-6 (Sub No. 449X)

April 25, 2007

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

☒ (X) Notice of Exemption ☐ () Petition for Exemption ☐ () Regulated Abandonment

☒ (X) **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

☐ () **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on April 9, 2007, for public review and comment. In the EA, SEA recommended four environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Conclusions

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, SEA recommends that the four environmental conditions recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority. The conditions are:

1. The BNSF Railway Company shall comply with the recommendations of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, regarding (1) removal of all bridge pilings; (2) removal of railroad embankment and appropriate revegetation measures along the stream banks; and (3) proper disposal of all creosote treated materials.
2. The BNSF Railway Company shall consult with the City of Appleton, Minnesota, regarding compliance with its Flood Plain Zoning Ordinances prior to initiation of any salvage activities regarding potential impacts to the 100-year floodplain and shall comply with all reasonable requirements.
3. The BNSF Railway Company shall consult with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (Mr. Skip Wright, Area Hydrologist) regarding removal of the bridge prior to initiation of any salvage activities and shall comply with all reasonable requirements.
4. The BNSF Railway Company shall notify the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities in order to plan for the possible relocation of the two geodetic station markers identified by NGS.

If the above conditions are imposed, SEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TB' followed by a stylized flourish.

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